



County of Los Angeles **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

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Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

June 5, 2006

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Budget Conference Committee Update

The Budget Conference Committee continued its deliberations on June 1, 2006, and began addressing health and human services issues. Trauma funding was one of the first issues discussed, and the \$15 million appropriation was left open for further deliberations. Assembly Members Judy Chu and John Laird indicated that trauma funding is a high priority for the Assembly Democrats, and that funding for these facilities will keep these centers open and therefore save lives. Republican conferees, Assembly Member Rick Keene and Senator Dennis Hollingsworth, stated that this small amount of funding does not begin to address the overall financial problems facing trauma centers, and that a more significant policy discussion may need to take place prior to a decision on funding. Chairman Chesbro acknowledged the need for additional support for a number of health and human services programs, but indicated that the dollars are simply not there. As expected, the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office do not support use of additional State resources for trauma funding due to the State's ongoing imbalance between revenues and expenditures.

In other areas, the Budget Conference Committee:

- Left open items related to Proposition 36 until they resolve various local and State cost issues.
- Rejected \$2.1 million for a Spanish language HIV social marketing campaign to be conducted within Los Angeles County.
- Approved \$5.6 million for an HIV/AIDS prevention program to restore program funding to the FY 2002-03 funding levels.
- Left open funding for County Health Initiative Programs to provide health care coverage for low income children. The Assembly approved \$40 million for this program while the Senate approved \$22.8 million.
- Left open funding for the Child Support Enhancement Fund which would set aside \$12 million to provide funding to local child support agencies to be used for collection enhancement activities. The Assembly approved the augmentation, while the Senate did not.

The Conference Committee resumes today, June 5, 2006, and is expected to complete work this week.

Status of County-Interest Legislation

County-supported AB 1785 (Bermudez), which would increase the amount required to be budgeted for allocation to grade separation projects from \$15 million to \$70 million annually, was amended on May 26, 2006 to specify that its provisions will become operative only if the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 (SB 1266) is approved by the voters at the November 7, 2006 statewide general election. AB 1785 passed the Assembly Floor on May 31, 2006 by a vote of 71 to 8, and is currently at the Senate Desk awaiting referral to a policy committee.

County-supported AB 2161 (Hancock), which would establish the Unified Resource Families Assessment Pilot Project in five volunteer counties selected by the California Department of Social Services to merge processes for licensing and approving relatives, foster parents and adoptive families, passed the Assembly on May 31, 2006 by a vote of 80 to 0, and now proceeds to the Senate.

County-opposed AB 2754 (Chan), which would require certain hospitals to adopt a staffing plan or procedure for professional and technical classifications in order to determine the number of competent personnel to meet the needs of the patients, passed the Assembly on May 31, 2006 by a vote of 43 to 34, and now proceeds to the Senate.

County-supported AB 3070 (Chan), which would make technical corrections and clarifications to last year's Hospital Financing Waiver statutes, passed the Assembly on May 31, 2006 by a vote of 80 to 0, and now proceeds to the Senate.

County-supported SB 1596 (Runner), which would establish a voluntary nurse home visiting grant program and would require the California Department of Health Services to make grants available to counties to provide voluntary visiting nurse services to first-time pregnant, low-income mothers, their children and their families, passed the Senate on May 30, 2006 by a vote of 21 to 2, and now proceeds to the Assembly. SB 1596 was amended on May 26, 2006 to require the Department to distribute these grants only if there are sufficient funds available from private donations to implement the program.

County-opposed SB 1778 (Alarcon), which would eliminate diversion credit for green waste as an alternative daily cover and instead count it as disposal, which would jeopardize local jurisdictions' achievement of the State's 50 percent waste reduction mandate and increase costs for local jurisdictions and residents for the collection and processing of green waste materials, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File on May 25, 2006 because of potential increased State costs.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK
MAL:JF:IGR:cc

Attachment

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 660
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations